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Met with Mrs. Dora McCracken, Staff Assistant, House Foreign Affairs Committee, and received a copy of the conference report to accompany S. 18, concerning grants to Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. Mrs. McCracken told me that the Committee staff as yet has heard nothing further concerning the alleged report on dope in Thailand which according to Jack Anderson is to be filed with the Committee by Representative Lester L. Wolff (D., N.Y.).

Met with Mr. Arthur Kuhl, Chief Clerk, Senate Foreign Relations Committee, whom I had not seen since his return from his travels through the Far East and Europe with Senator Symington (D., Mo.). In brief, Mr. Kuhl told me that Senator Symington had excluded him and the military escort from all meetings with Agency personnel. The Senator, however, had seemed pleased with the treatment he received at the hands of the Agency.

Met with Mr. John R. Blandford, Chief Counsel, House Armed Services Committee, and briefed him on the Soviet VTOL, the Foxbat Sinai overflight, and Chinese CSS-1 ground support equipment.

Met with Messrs. John Martiny and Robert Lockhart, House Post Office and Civil Service Committee staff, and reviewed with them the need for exemption for the Agency from Section 2 and 3 of H.R. 3807, a bill to amend Title 5 of the United States Code to establish and govern the Federal Executive Service and for other purposes. In discussion with Mr. Lockhart, after Mr. Martiny had to leave the meeting, he pointed out that this is an Administration bill and is scheduled for hearings starting with the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission on 28 March solely as a result of a request by the Administration for consideration of the measure. Mr. Lockhart pointed out that although he did foresee little difficulty in the Agency convincing a member of the Committee to introduce the appropriate amendments on our behalf during Committee consideration of the bill, he would recommend serious consideration of reviewing the matter with the Civil Service Commission before the Chairman's appearance on the 28th. Since the bill is an Administration one, a mere request by the Chairman of the Civil Service Commission during his presentation on the 28th for an amendment on the Agency's behalf could be expected to be adopted with minimum discussion. He noted that we might want to consider suggesting to the Commission that there are other agencies as well as ours among those granted specific exemption from Section 1 of the bill that probably should be exempt from Section 2 and 3. I thanked Mr. Lockhart for his advice and told him I would be back in touch the first of the week. Mr. Warner, OGC and Mr. Fisher have been advised.